

PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF THE FINE ARTS

ANATOMY/ACADEMY

Philadelphia Nexus of Art and Science

January 29 - April 17, 2011

In Spring 2011 the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (PAFA) will present the exhibition *ANATOMY/ACADEMY*, exploring the science of the body as seen through the eyes of prominent American artists. Since its founding in 1805, PAFA and its artists have worked side-by-side with Philadelphia's physicians and scientists, exploring the convergence of art and science, and fostering knowledge of human anatomy in America.

ANATOMY/ACADEMY will be the first exhibition to explore Philadelphia's pivotal role in advancing artistic and medical understanding of the body through the convergence of artists, scientists, and doctors. The exhibition will include drawings, photographs, paintings, sculpture, ephemera, and material culture from the 18th century to today. Among the artists included in the show are William Rush, Thomas Eakins, Thomas Anshutz, Marcel Duchamp, Robert Henri, John Sloan, and the artist collective TODT. *ANATOMY/ACADEMY* will also feature artifacts from the world of medical science, such as Dr. Samuel D. Gross's scalpel and Caspar Wistar's dissection kit.

Thomas Eakins's *The Gross Clinic*, the preeminent 19th century American realist painting, celebrated today as a heroic medical history painting, will return to PAFA as the centerpiece of this exhibition.

An extensive array of public programming will accompany the exhibition, including partnerships with local science institutions such as College of Physicians of Philadelphia, Drexel University College of Medicine, Jefferson University, and The Wistar Institute. These local partner medical organizations are supporting the exhibition through loans of anatomical casts, historical medical equipment, and other objects, and have been instrumental in the exhibition planning process.



Thomas Eakins, *Portrait of Dr. Samuel D. Gross, (The Gross Clinic)*, 1875, oil on canvas, 96 x 78 inches. Gift of the Alumni Association to Jefferson Medical College in 1878 and purchased by the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and the Philadelphia Museum of Art in 2007 with the generous support of more than 3,400 donors, 2007.2



Charles H. Stephens, *Anatomical Lecture by Dr. William Williams Keen* (illustration for William C. Brownell, 'The Art Schools of Philadelphia,' Scribner's Monthly 18; Sept. 1879) ca. 1879



Traveling Lecture Series

Do you have a group of at least 20 that would be interested in hearing a talk about this exhibition? PAFA's outreach program brings museum staff members to your institution **free of charge** to share their expertise. Call 215-972-2105 to arrange a program.

Graduate Symposium: Anatomy/Academy

Saturday, March 26, 2011

Graduate students present original research related to the "nexus of art and science." Participating organizations are the University of Pennsylvania; Princeton University; Temple University; Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey; and the University of Delaware. Free and open to the public.

For more information please contact:

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